DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

2355 East 5th Street - San Bernardino, CA 92415-0064 - (909) 388-4600

☐ 1647 East Holt Boulevard - Ontario, CA 91761 - (909) 458-9673

☐ 13911 Park Ave. - Victorville, CA 92392 - (760) 243-3773

☐ San Bernardino County Vector Control Program

385 North Arrowhead Avenue - San Bernardino, CA 92415-0160 - (909) 884-

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM

JAMES A. FELTON, MPA Public Health Programs Administrator

THOMAS J. PRENDERGAST, JR., MD, MPH Director of Public Health

> DANIEL J. AVERA, REHS Chief of Environmental Health

> > Also serving the cities of:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 29, 2003 PHD# 3-333

Contact: Joan Mulcare, R.E.H.S. Program Manager (909) 387-4688

Adelanto Montclair Apple Valley Barstow Ontario Big Bear Lake Rancho Cucamonga Chino Redlands Chino Hills Rialto Colton San Bernardino Fontana Twentynine Palms Grand Terrace Hesperia Unland Victorville Yucaipa Yucca Valley Loma Linda

FOOD DONATION GUIDELINES

San Bernardino County Department of Public Health appreciates the outpouring of goodwill throughout San Bernardino County due to the devastating fires. To help provide safe food to those impacted by this tragedy, please *do not* bring the following food to shelters:

- **Homemade items.** Includes any food prepared at home such as casseroles, cookies, leftovers or home canned items.
- **Open food items.** Includes food that has the inner package ripped or any seal broken.
- **Items not in their original container.** Includes food that has been repackaged into plastic containers, baggies, etc.
- Items without original labels. All food containers must have labels indicating item name, ingredients and place of manufacture.
- **Damaged items.** No canned food that is heavily rusted, dented or leaking.

The following food may be accepted at designated evacuation centers with adequate storage facilities and with approval from site coordinators:

- Packaged or canned food in original containers.
- Frozen food in original packaging that is maintained at proper temperature.
- Perishable food that is packaged in original containers, held at *safe temperatures* and transported safely. Sites receiving perishable food must be equipped with means to hold the food at proper hot or cold holding temperatures. Use a thermometer to determine safe temperatures:

Hot food must be 140° F or hotter

Cold food must be 41° F or colder

- Food from commercial facilities (grocery stores) must be in its original packaging.
- Food prepared in restaurants or other facilities that are permitted by San Bernardino County
 Environmental Health Services.

Arrangements can be made with restaurants or other permitted food facilities to supply food directly to shelter sites. Contact you local chapter of the Red Cross for specific food items that may be needed in your area.

If you have questions or concerns about food donations please call San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health Services at (909) 884-4056 or (760) 243-3773. Visit the website at www.sbcounty.gov/dehs for related information.